

In re Patent Application of:

**APPLETON ET AL**

Serial No. 10/763,784

Filed: 01/23/2004

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REMARKS

Prior to the present amendment, claims 1, 4 and 7-10 were pending. By virtue of the foregoing amendments, which include the cancellation of claim 8 and 10, per se, claims 1, 4, 7 and 9 are currently pending. Reconsideration of this application in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The notice of allowable subject matter in claims 1, 4, 8 and 10 is gratefully appreciated. In an effort to bring prosecution of the present application to a favorable conclusion, claims 8 and 10 have been rewritten in self-contained form by incorporating the subject matter of these claims into claims 7 and 9, respectively, upon which these claims depend. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 4 and amended claims 7 and 9 (claims 8 and 10, per se, having been cancelled) are now in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is, accordingly, earnestly solicited.

Favorable reconsideration of this application and a Notice of Allowability of all the claims remaining in the application are respectfully requested.

Of course, if the Examiner is of the opinion that additional minor amendments to the claims are in order, he is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below so that any such changes may be discussed and, where warranted, effected.

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Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-0484 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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